

## Peru: Brazil nut project helps to avoid deforestation



Certification:



### Key Facts



## The Project

The Amazon basin stretches over eight million square kilometers, about twenty times the size of Germany. Sheer inaccessibility provides effective protection for invaluable habitats for animals and plants. Madre de Dios province in the East of Peru is a prime example for this. There are indigenous groups living in the region that haven't made contact with the outside world as of yet. Scientists estimate that 10% of the animal species in the area might yet be unknown. Since August 2011, the Transoceánica highway is cutting through the region. The Transoceánica is more than 2,600 kilometers long and connects the Brazilian part of Amazonia to the Pacific coast. Before, voyaging to Cusco 500 kilometers away took 2-3 days. Now, it's a 10 hour drive.

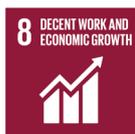
Experience in past decades shows that deforestation for agriculture and illegal logging is following suit with better access. This project comprises of two forestry concessions that are managed in line with Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) guidelines. The concessions stretch over 100,000 hectares covered by dense rain forest. Effective surveillance of this area to prevent illegal dwelling and destructive forest use is only possible with the support of carbon certificate revenues.

## Sustainable development

By supporting this project you'll contribute to the following SDGs:



**Clean water and sanitation:** The protected area is a main water collector of the drainage systems of the region. The preservation of the natural cycles is therefore of major importance for the preservation of local water resources. Forest protection also improves local soil and water quality by avoiding soil degradation and reducing erosion.



**Decent work and economic growth:** The project creates new income opportunities for the people living in the project area. Sustainable forestry management and the protection and surveillance of the project area are reliable sources of income for local communities.



**Responsible consumption and production:** The project enables small local farmers to sustainably cultivate, harvest and process Brazil nuts. Additionally they get easy access to international markets to sell their final product.



**Life on land:** Efficient cook stoves reduce the demand for wood or charcoal, therefore easing pressure on forest resources in Uganda. This yields direct benefits like slowing soil erosion, the destruction of natural habitats and loss of biodiversity.

### Location:

Madre de Dios, Peru

### Project type:

REDD+

### Total emission reductions:

» 210,000t CO<sub>2</sub>e p.a. «

### Project standard:

Verified Carbon Standard & CCBS

### Project start date:

October 2009



**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**

While focusing on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, all our projects also generate multiple co-benefits. These are supportive of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



## Scientific brief – how it works

Carbon circulates within a cycle, consisting of the atmosphere, the plant, plant litter and the soil. Carbon dioxide drawn from the surrounding atmosphere is the main input of any plant's photosynthesis processes. The outputs are water, oxygen and carbohydrates. The latter are built into the plant's fiber thereby fixing carbon in the plant's biomass. Ultimately, the carbon re-enters the atmosphere from decaying biomass litter or soil respiration.

Deforestation breaks this cycle with multi-fold negative effects. First, burning biomass directly increases the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Secondly, it reduces the biosphere's absolute capacity to fix carbon. Thirdly, the removal of plant cover accelerates the rate at which carbon fixed in soils is respired into the atmosphere. Lastly, the erosion of soils impedes the long-term recovery of vegetation on degraded areas. This is a particularly challenging issue in tropical climates where soils are mostly poor in nutrients.



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## Project Standard



The Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) is a global standard for the validation and verification of voluntary carbon emission reductions. Emissions reductions from VCS projects have to be real, measurable, permanent, additional, unique, transparent, and third-party verified. Assessed against the background of the total volume of emission reductions, VCS is the globally leading standard for voluntary carbon offsets.



The Climate, Community & Biodiversity (CCB) Standards were launched in 2005 to foster development of, and investment in, site-based projects that deliver credible and significant climate, community and biodiversity benefits in an integrated, sustainable manner.

For more information on other projects in our portfolio please visit our website:

[www.firstclimate.com](http://www.firstclimate.com)